SPIES OF WAR

Discussion as to Whether It Is an Honor able Undertaking.

Is the service of a spy in war honorable? It certainly cannot be set down as always dishonorable, since some men who have performed it have been regarded as in the highest degree worthy of honor. Nathan Hale, of Connecticut, an American patriot of the highest character, volunteered, after Washington's defeat on Long Island, to go to the mainland and seek information of the strength, plans and situation of the enemy. Hale was a brave young officer, and had distinguished himself by dashing and brilliant service. Probably he had no lik-

Hale crossed to the mainland in safety, obtained full knowledge of the situation, and set out to return to Washington's camp. He was discovered by the enemy and hanged in New York by the order of Sir William Howe, without trial. His last words were: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.'

The virtues and bravery of Hale alone would have invested the service my name, and as the opinion of foreign obof the spy with a considerable degree servers is always of more or less interest to the words, of honor, even if there had not been many other spies whose work had been almost, if not quite, as brave.
But there is no doubt that the duty

who take advantage of it.

Vattely the author of the "Law of Nations, says that "a man of honor, who would not expose himself to die by the hand of the common executioner, ever declines serving as a spy; he considers it beneath him, as it seldom can be done without some kind of

have always had a certain repugnance to spies, even their own. The story is told that, at the time of Napoleon I, a French py was charged with making a plan of the fortifications of Mayence. found the German garrison expecting can men experience in getting into London the depressing thoughts suggested by The spy was able to speak the English , women were taken up by royalty in England Miss Maria Linley expired at Bath

English were in alliance with the Germans he was taken through all the fortifications and given every item of ico's, when I met a distinguished member of item that he wanted ico's, when I met a distinguished member of item that he wanted item to be item at by a file of the play had to be fired at by a file of soldiers. The men had been instructed, before loading their pieces, item that he wanted item to be item at by a file of the play had to be fired at by a file of soldiers. fortifications and given every item of information that he wanted.

But he gave the spy \$5,000 in In opposition to the doctrine laid down by Vattel and Napoleon, it may be urged that the very possibility of dishonorable death, and the knowledge that a spy's service may be regarded as "beneath a man of honor," may ren-

der the voluntary performance of this ment of battle to spur him on to brave deeds; the spy has before him the possibility of an ignominious death. He must meet peril alone, and in cold blood. The soldier's brave service may be the result of a sort of physical courage, while that of the spy must be the result of moral courage.

a fashionable carriage. The host went up to him after I entered and said:

"I want to introduce you to Mr. Dash, of Berlin."

"Who? drawled the New York man.

"The host repeated his remark, and then the New Yorker said in a tone quite audible:

"Never heard of him."

NOT PARTICULARLY EXTERTAINING.

be the result of moral courage. As America has honored a spy, in the person of Nathan Hale, it is dis-tinguished as the first nation to institute a full trial by court martial of the pies of an enemy. Previous to this, it had been customary to send spies to the gallows, as Nathan Hale was sent, merely upon the order of a com- bowed to him, as a matter of course. He mander in chief. — Youth's Com- stared at me for a moment, and then, with

Weather and Common Sense.

It does not always require' that a man should be a prophet to make a shrewd guess as to what the weather will be some months in advance. There are probabilities, we will not say certainties, regarding times and seasons that are obvious to every one who knows the difference between storm and calm, heat and cold. We know, for instance, that one extreme country in the world would have led to a is likely to follow another. If one polite recognition on his part at least. If winter is extremely cold it is highly any American were introduced to a gentleman probable it will be followed by another correspondingly moderate. An unusually cold wave, so called, will generally be succeeded by a spell of weather of great mildness for the seamutered something about a cuer German. son. To a very dry season, or a succession of dry seasons, there is sure to succeed a period of weather to make up the deficiency of rainfall. If any particular spring is cold and wet and late, we may generally expect that the glared about through his single glass. succeeding autumn will be warm and He had meanwhile learned of my Plush Robes! in coming. If the entire year should of my silly little title, so be be bad on account of the excessive up-intruding without a word upon the cold or unseasonable storms, the com- party of my friends-called me dear baron pensation may not come till the next year, but that it will come in time is as sure as that the sun will continue to rise and set. It is one of the first laws of nature that rain shall alternate with sunshine, storm with calm and heat with cold, and it is by studying these movements of the elements more closely than the rest of mankind that somewhere near the truth in their predictions. - San Francisco Chronicle.

Catching Eels by the Barrel. One of the most novel sights in the spring of the year, at the rocks of the Willamette falls, is the swarms of gyrating eels. They are friskiness itself, and show a low order of intelligence. If you put your hand in the water over the cels, or spit on it, instantly they are gone. But poke a stick down among the snaky things and they do not notice it. The sense of smell seems to be their main guard against danger. Like salmon, they do their level best to dart up the rocks in order to ascend the river, and with good success. Says a fisherman:

"I have seen as many as a hundred bushels of cels hanging on the rocks at one time by the suckers of their mouths. They would wiggle and flutter their tails, and by the momentum thus obtained, letting go with their suckers, jump up about six inches higher. I caught about forty barrels last season that I salted and sold to the Columbia fishermen for bait. I picked them off the rocks with a fish hook tied to a pole. I started at the bottom row of hanging eels, and would silently pick off barrel after barrel. The upper rows hadn't sense enough to perceive the enemy. I have caught eels in the headwaters of the Santiam, and killed him. And this was not the end of it, for the king, indignant at in the Cascade mountains. Suppose they had swum up from the Willamette."+Oregon City Courier.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

A FOREIGN VISITOR CRITICISES THE CITY'S FASHIONABLE MEN.

Young Snobs-How "My Dear Baron" Was Snubbed by a Club Man-A Trans-

Some time since we met an officer in Berlin who was starting on a tour of the world. He was a captain in the German army-a very high rank for a man of only 35 years; had served in a minor diplomatic capacity at St. Petersburg and London, and was off on a six months' leave. He had letters of introing for the work of a spy; but it was duction to a number of prominent people in enough for him that his commander New York. The other day he sat in a desired a brave and prudent man for smoking room of the Liederkranz club and covered, although she lingered for the service. He volunteered, and was talked of New York society. He is a man of perfect manners, handsome person and great

"I have been in America ever since I left permanently. I am in love with the place and with the women, but not with the men." "Have you met many New Yorkers?"

"Yes, a great many of them at Newport. Bar Harbor and here. With the exception of a few traveled men I am astonished at the manners which prevail. In talking to you I assume, of, course, that you will not mention Americans, I believe, I shall talk without restriction about one of the most remarkable If I do lose thee, I do lose a thing of a spy is commonly regarded as in some sense dishonorable, even by those

but the sprigs who claim to be social men are almost insufferable. My title of baron, you know, is of small consequence on the other side, and I have not used it at all here. treachery. A sovereign, therefore, Probably I would receive more consideration cannot lawfully require such a service | had I done so, but I was in love with the of subjects, except, perhaps, in some hospitality and good nature of the older New last words of the actor with the mosingular case, and that of the last im-Following this idea, the French have been known simply as plain Mr." A SILLY LOT OF SPRIGS.

"Do you mean to say that society men have been distinctly rude?" "They are the silliest lot of sprigs," said the German captain, with an indulgent smile, When he arrived at that city, he much talk about the difficulty which Ameri- heart disease brought into activity by

our government's representative corps here to bite off the bullet when biting the When he had seen and taken note of everything, he disappeared, and returned to Napoleon's headquarters. His information proved of great service to his country, and it was proposed to the emperor to decorate the man with the cross of the Legion of Honor.

"No, indeed," said Napoleon. "I did not establish the Legion of Honor to reward services of that kind."

But he gave the spy \$5,000 in leave on the said he was going to leave on the 3:40 train for Washington, and urged me to go with him. He promised to bring me back safely two or three days later, and spoke so eloquently of the magnificence of the railway service, the beauties of the capital city. We arrived there before 10 o'clock. It looked more like Paris by night than any other city I have ever seen. This was doubtless the result of the many lights, the smooth tar pavements, and the width of the avenues. I met a New Yorker whom I knew that night at he was seized with sudden indisposi-

dozen guests had already assembled. There don Standard der the voluntary performance of this duty more an act of bravery than the most daring service on the battlefield. his elbows akimbo in a general effort toward The soldier has the rush and excite- a fashionable carriage. The host went up to

NOT PARTICULARLY ENTERTAINING. "We were introduced to each other, sai side by side, and talked for several hours He endeavored to exploit his intimacy with many prominent society people, and was not parted politely, and the following day I was going along Commercial avenue, when he brushed past with a lady on his arm. I his hat. I was surprised that he should have forgotten me so soon, and when I met him the following night at the Arlington hotel as he was on the way to the theatre, I bowed again, but this time with some trepidation. He stared at me coolly, again touched the rim of his hat as he would to a porter and ab-

ruptly passed by.

muttered something about a queer German as he passed by me the second time. All this Horse Blankets! was naturally not particularly pleasing.
"I came back to New York and was at the Brunswick at supper last night after the theatre, when the society man came in and pleasant, and that winter will be slow position in the German army and and regretted that a moment of near sightedness had momentarily caused him to forget me in Washington. His friendliness was a thousand times more offensive than his snobbish judifference to my presence in the

"It is an illustration of the manners of young society men. I wondered at it very much at first, but I have grown callous to it now. To be introduced to a society man by some pretended weather prophets have a mutual friend is usually only the beginoccasionally succeeded in coming ning of a series of snubs and slights. On the other hand, if you meet a young man in Germany or France who is at all in the swim, you may depend upon the most thorough courtesy in every possible way. In the same way, though the English are at times insolent, they devote an endless amount of trouble and pains to making welcome the stranger within their gates. From my experience of life I do not hesitate to say that the society men of New York are the most wearisome, insolent and ill bred men on the face of the sarth."-New York Sun.

> DEATH AND THE THEATRE. Cases of the Grim Visitation on Ancient

and Modern Stages. It is recorded of Julius Casar that in his own theatre his passion so overcame him during the piece that when one of the actors brought him a poisoned shirt dipped in the blood of the Centaur Nessus, instead of pretending only to kill him he did so actually and threw his body over his head. In like manner one of the earliest Passion plays of which we Parlor and Chamber Suits, Bureaus, have any account was rendered terrible in its result. It was acted in Sweden in 1513, in the reign of John II. Lengis, the actor, had to pierce the side of the person representing Our Saviour as he hung upon the cross. His religious excitement was so great

that he plunged his lance into the man

such brutality, slew Lengis, and the

people, incensed at the death of their

favorite actor, cut off the king's head

-so at least history tells us. In more recent times death has frequently played an unwelcome part upon the

There once was a theatre in Linknown French actors about the same time. These were Monfleury, Mon-

in repeating the epilogue to "As You many of you as had beards that pleased From this attack she never renearly three years ere death released her. Samuel Foote, the English Aristophanes, as he was called, had a similar seizure while acting in his own Berlin," he said, "and I hope to remain here comedy, "The Devil Upon Two Sticks," and died a few months afterward. There was a ghastly appropriateness in the death of an actor named Patterson, who for a long time was a prominent member of the Norwich theatrical company. He was taking the part of the Duke in "Measure for Measure," and had no sooner uttered

reciting the following lines: Be witness for me, ye celestial hosts!

Such mercy and such pardon as my soul

May such befall me at my latest hear. "that I have ever known. I have heard | The explanation probably is latent The spy was able to speak the English language perfectly well, and it occurred to him that it would be an excellent plan for him to impersonate this English general.

He carried out his plan so skillfully that no one suspected that he was not a genuine English officer; and as the English were in alliance with the Germans he was taken through all the

"Othello," on the 25th of March, 1833. supper at a prominent Washington club, and he asked me to dine with him the next day.

"When I arrived at 7 o'clock the half speak to them for me, Charles."—Lon-

coln's Inn Fields, and here a cele-brated actor named Spiller was, in the early part of the last century, mortally stricken by apoplexy while playing in the 'Rape of Proserpine.' A similar fate befell no less than three well

Fifty years later the celebrated Peg Woffington, when acting as Rosalind Like It." was struck down by paralysis after uttering the words, "I'd kiss as

Accords to thee, and begs of heaven to show thee

dory and Bricourt.

features of your daily life. That is, the ex- That none but fools would keep, a breath thou art. traordinary ill manners and ill breeding of than he dropped into a brother actor's New York's young men. There is a degree arms and died suddenly. The tragic of snobbishness about them which I have death of Palmer, the original Joseph never known to exist elsewhere on the civil- Surface, is well known. He was playized planet. You understand, of course, that | ing in "The Stranger," at Liverpool. I am speaking only of society men. The pro- In the fourth act, alluding to his wife fessional and business men of the town are and children, he had just uttered the amiable and good natured to the last degree, words: "O, God! God! there is another and better world," when he fell dead at the feet of Whitfield, who acted Baron Steinford. The singular thing about these real stage tragedies is the invisible link that connects the hospitality and good nature of the older New last words of the actor with the moon my merits. On that account, as I say, I performing in "Jane Shore." He expired on the stage immediately after

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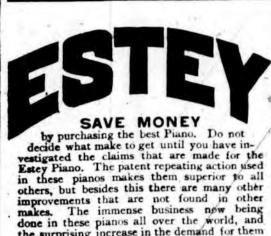
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